



Resolution # HSRA 13-31

Delegation of Authority to Finalize and Approve the “Lazy K” Mitigation Agreement

Whereas, under the California High-Speed Rail Act, the California High-Speed Rail Authority is responsible for planning, constructing, and operating an intercity high-speed passenger train network that is fully integrated with the state’s existing intercity transportation services [Pub. Util. Code, §§ 185030, 185031];

Whereas, the Chief Executive Officer administers the affairs of the Authority, as directed by the Authority Board, to carry out the Authority’s responsibilities under the California High-Speed Rail Act;

Whereas, the Authority Board approved the first section of the high-speed rail system between Merced and Fresno Final in May 2012, pursuant to Resolution # HSRA 12-21;

Whereas, in Resolution # HSRA 12-21, the Authority adopted mitigation measures for biological resources and wetlands and identified that it would obtain all necessary permits and approvals related to biological resources and wetlands;

Whereas, it is necessary to obtain permits and approvals from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the State Water Resources Control Board (“regulatory agencies”) to construct the high-speed rail system between Merced and Fresno;

Whereas, the Lazy K Mitigation Proposal presents a unique opportunity to fulfill regulatory requirements that are necessary preconditions to the regulatory agencies issuing permits and approvals on a single site;

Whereas, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15164, the Authority Board has considered the staff-prepared addendum together with the previously certified Merced to Fresno Section EIR for the Lazy K Mitigation Proposal, and none of the conditions described in CEQA Guidelines section 15162 have occurred;

Therefore, it is resolved:

1. The Chief Executive Officer, or designee of the Chief Executive Officer, is hereby authorized to finalize and execute a contract with Vollmar Natural Lands Consulting for the Lazy K Mitigation Proposal for a total contract not to exceed \$ 10,000,000.

2. The Chief Executive Officer, or designee, is hereby authorized to manage the contract for the Lazy K Mitigation Proposal within the total authorized contract amount.

Vote: 8 - 0

Date: 11/7/13